

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed August 31, 2006 has been carefully considered.

Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 – 92 are pending in the application. Claims 1-92 have been canceled. New claims 93 – 134 have been added. Support for these changes may be found in the specification, drawings, and claims as originally filed. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that no new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection

Claims 1-92 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for one or more reasons.

In response applicant has canceled the claims to address the rejections

In regard to the rejection of claims 26 and 81, applicants agree with the Examiner that “user-provided” does not encompass implicitly-based and claims 26 and 81 have been amended accordingly. However, applicants respectfully submit that the term “user-provided” does not have an accepted meaning of “explicitly defined by the user”. The term “user-provided” simply means provided by a user. Paragraph 58 contains no explicit definition of “user-defined” because “user-defined” is not a claimed limitation. Moreover, no explicit definition is required for either “user-defined” or “user-provided”, each of which, though not synonymous, have clear and ordinary meaning. Applicant agrees that different users may have different displays and that such displays may display a different and variable number of lines of text, however, each user, being aware of these variations may provide this information as a basis for splitting the query grid, as claimed.

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

Claims 1 – 92 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner states that the result of “splitting” is intangible.

In response applicant has amended the claims to include the tangible result of the claimed “splitting”. Applicant respectfully submits that “splitting” refers to dividing into two or more parts. The tangible result of “splitting” a query grid is “two or more split query grids”.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Claims 1 – 10, 15 – 44, 46 – 65, and 70 – 92 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,564,212 to Koskas.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 93 is not anticipated by Koskas. New claim 93 includes the following limitations.

A method for sending a multidimensional database query to one or more data servers, the multidimensional database query including a grid having one or more rows and one or more columns, an action range, and an operation, the method comprising:

creating a row tree structure, said row tree structure representing title and header rows in the query grid;

creating a column tree structure, said column tree structure representing header columns in the query grid;

performing the operation on the row tree structure and the column tree structure;

splitting the query grid into two or more split query grids using the row tree structure and the column tree structure; and

transmitting the split query grids to the one or more data servers.

(Claim 93) (Emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that Koskas does not disclose or suggest the limitation of splitting the query grid into two or more split query grids using the row tree structure and the column tree structure. As cited by the Examiner in this regard Koskas discloses the following:

“A possible architecture of the parallel query processing engine is illustrated in FIG. 72, in the particular case where all blocks have the same size j_{max} . A number M of matching units 700 are connected to a query server 701 through a communication network 702. Each matching unit 700 may be a processor system of the type shown in FIG. 18. It has a storage device 703 such as a hard drive for storing the thesaurus sections associated with the block. If a link table of the type shown in FIG. 9 is used, it is partitioned into blocks in the same manner as the virtual flat file, and each block is stored in the corresponding matching unit. The server 701 provides the man-machine interface. It translates the query criteria of the SQL WHERE clause into trees of the type shown in FIG. 37, which are provided to the M matching units 700 along with a description of the desired output. Each of the units 700 does its part of the job according to steps 191-193 of FIG. 36 and returns its response to the server 701. The latter compiles the results from the different matching units to provide the overall response to the user. In order to perform the analysis of step 191, each matching unit 700 uses its thesaurus sections.

Alternatively, the analysis of the query criteria could be executed centrally by the server 701 by means of global thesauruses, each global thesaurus being common to all the (macro)words and having M columns for containing pointers to identifier sub-lists in the M storage units 703. At the end of the analysis stage, the relevant pointers are addressed to the matching units 700 for their execution of steps 192-193.

An update server 704, which may be the same machine as the query server 701, is also connected to the network 702 to create and maintain the VDG's relating to the different blocks. It monitors the changes made in the data tables of the RDBMS and routes thesaurus update commands to the units 700 in order to make the necessary changes in the thesaurus sections.”

(Koskas, col. 51, lines 30 – 50) (Emphasis added)

A thorough reading of this section of Koskas, and Koskas as a whole, makes clear that what is described is the partitioning of a link table into blocks and storing them in corresponding processor systems (matching units). Koskas is therefore partitioning the trees and not the query grid. Moreover, the partitioning described in Koskas is not equivalent to the “splitting of the query grid” as claimed.

For these reasons, applicants respectfully submit that claim 93, is not anticipated or rendered obvious by Koskas. Given that claim 114 includes similar limitations and that all pending claims depend, directly or indirectly, from one of claims 93 and 114, applicants

rerespectively submit that all pending claims are, likewise, not anticipated or rendered obvious by Koskas.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

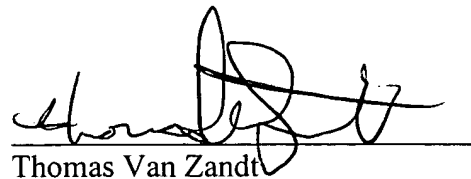
It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Van Zandt', is written over a horizontal line.

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